

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/106188 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B42D 15/10**, G02F 01/1335, 01/1337

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/AU03/00730**

(22) International Filing Date: 12 June 2003 (12.06.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
PS 3019 18 June 2002 (18.06.2002) AU

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

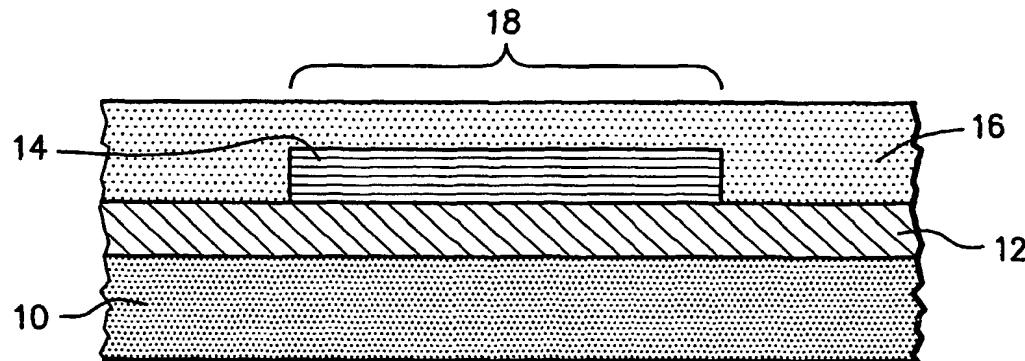
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: POLARISING LIQUID CRYSTAL DEVICE FOR SECURITY DOCUMENTS



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(57) Abstract: A polarising liquid crystal device comprises a substrate (10), at least one photo-alignment layer (12) which is uniformly aligned with a polarised light source and a nematic liquid crystal layer (14) applied to the photo-alignment layer (12). A latent image (18;48;78) which is viewable under cross-polarisers is formed by the photo-alignment layer (12) and the liquid crystal layer (14) without the aid of a mask by a variable printing or laser writing process.